

COLORADO RIVER RECOVERY PROGRAM
FY 99 ANNUAL PROJECT REPORT

RECOVERY PROGRAM
PROJECT NUMBER: 3

I. Project Title: Fish and Wildlife Service Program Management

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III. Project Summary: The ongoing work of the Recovery Program Director's office is to ensure timely and effective planning, implementation, coordination, and administrative support of the Recovery Program by: 1) coordinating and implementing recovery activities; 2) conducting Program planning and evaluation; 3) managing the Recovery Program annual budget; 4) providing staff assistance to Program committees; and 5) directing and coordinating Service Recovery Program activities. These tasks were carried out by Recovery Program staff including the director, assistant director, coordinators for the major recovery elements, and clerical staff.

IV. Study Schedule: 1989-ongoing.

V. Relationship to RIPRAP:

General Recovery Program Support Action Plan:

- VII.A.3 Update, refine, and prioritize recovery actions (RIPRAP) annually.
- VII.A.5 Monitor and assess Recovery Program accomplishments annually.
- VII.A.6 Develop annual work plan to address priority needs.
- VII.B Actively participate in Recovery Program committees and secure funding for annual work plan and larger projects.
- VII.C Manage, direct, and coordinate Recovery Program activities.

VI. Accomplishment of FY 99 Tasks and Deliverables, Discussion of Initial Findings and Shortcomings:

A. Program Director & Staff

1. Directed and coordinated implementation of recovery efforts as described in the RIPRAP and the Annual Work Plan in the areas of: a) instream flow protection and nonnative fish management; b) habitat restoration; c) propagation/genetics and research, monitoring, and data management; and d) information, education, and public involvement. Program coordinators are: Bob Muth for instream flow protection and nonnative fish management; Pat Nelson for habitat restoration; Dave Soker for land acquisition; Tom Czapla for propagation/genetics and research, monitoring, and data management; and Debbie Felker for information, education, and public involvement (hired in FY 99 to replace Connie Young).

Significant accomplishments/activities included:

- C Actively participated in 15-Mile Reach Work Group and in discussions with water users to successfully resolve development/instream flow protection issues.
- C Hired a contractor to work with the Recovery Team and develop specific recovery goals.
- C Represented the Recovery Program at CWCB meetings.
- C Continued to work on the Yampa River Management Plan continues, and a began developing a programmatic biological opinion (PBO) approach to the Yampa River.
- C Worked with landowners along the Green, Gunnison, and Colorado rivers to negotiate agreements easement and/or acquisition of floodplain properties.
- C Hired new information/education/public involvement coordinator.
- C Began discussions and negotiations on how to extend the Recovery Program beyond 2003 and amend the Program's Cooperative Agreement.
- C Continued to negotiate long-term funding legislation, which was subsequently introduced in both the House and Senate.
- C Coordinated publicity and public involvement for high-profile Recovery Program issues.
- C Gave numerous presentations on the Recovery Program and its activities.
- C Developed/refined scopes of work.
- C Reviewed annual and final reports and scopes of work.

2. Carried out Program planning and evaluation:

- a. Updated RIPRAP in coordination with the Management and technical committees.
- b. Developed FY 2000 Preliminary and regular Program Guidance in coordination with the Management and technical committees. Solicited and developed proposals and drafted FY 2000 Work Plan in coordination with the Management and technical committees. Distributed draft FY 2000 Work Plan (the final was distributed in early FY 2000).
- c. Requested, revised as needed, and distributed FY 98 project accomplishment reports.
- d. Continued to implement peer review as needed.

3. Monitored the FY 99 Recovery Program annual budget and modified as necessary.

- a. Developed annual funding source/target tables (Program, Reclamation, and Service). Meeting with principal funders/recipients in late fall was a significant help in finalizing the budget and helping everyone understand it.

- b. Developed and administered numerous cooperative agreements and contracts to implement activities such as: peer review, Duchesne River investigations, stream gages, etc.
 - c. Monitored payment and expenditure of Section 7 funds in the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation account.
 - d. Calculated FY 2000 annual agency contributions and depletion charge increases based on the 1998 CPI (1.6%).
 - e. Assisted with obtaining annual funding by organizing (and accompanying) Recovery Program trip to Washington, D.C. to brief key people in the Department of the Interior, the Office of Management and Budget, national environmental groups, Congressional delegations, and authorizing and appropriation committees. Prepared briefing book. Arranged and participated in meetings of the ad hoc group to develop a long-term funding agreement for the Recovery Program.
4. Provided staff assistance to the Implementation and Management committees:
- a. Prepared and distributed agendas and related documents in coordination with committee chairs. Arranged meetings and conference calls.
 - b. Prepared and promptly distributed concise, accurate meeting summaries.
 - c. Maintained Recovery Program administrative record.
 - d. Provided staff assistance to committees as necessary.
 - e. Recovery Program committee and related activities publicized on the Program listserver and posted on Program participant web pages.
 - f. Attended Implementation, Management, and technical committee meetings. Took notes at Biology Committee meetings and promptly provided drafts meeting summaries to the Committee chair.
 - g. Maintained Recovery Program technical report library and database. Maintained library listing in Endnote bibliographic software and on the Program participant web pages.
 - h. Continued to maintain the electronic mailing list for Program participants.
 - 1. Maintained and improved web pages to serve information to Program participants.

5. Directed and coordinated Service activities related to the Recovery Program.
 - a. Administered funding for Service Recovery Program activities.
 - b. Conducted bimonthly Service conference call.
 - c. Coordinated with and provided staff support to Service management on Recovery Program activities and issues.

B. Fish and Wildlife Service

1. Provided technical expertise and recommendations to the Biology Committee as requested.
2. Participated in Biology Committee meetings.

VII.Recommendations: Tracking system will be fully implemented in early 2000.

VIII.Project Status: Ongoing and on track.

IX.FY 99 Budget Status

- A. Funds Provided: \$665,400 (FY 99 funds)
- B. Funds Expended: We anticipate that we have some FY 99 carry-over, but we are still working to identify exactly how much.
- C. Difference: To be determined.
- D. Percent of FY 99 work completed and projected costs to complete: We anticipate that we have some FY 99 carry-over and will inform Reclamation of that amount as soon as possible. Carry-over funds will be used to meet FY 2000 budget shortfalls or fund FY 2000 contingency projects.
- E. Recovery Program funds spent for publication charges: None this year.

X.Status of Data Submission: Not applicable.

XI.Signed: Henry Maddux, December 9, 1999.

APPENDIX: See also:

- FY 98 annual progress reports
- Recovery Implementation Program Section 7 Consultation, Sufficient Progress, and Historic Projects Agreement and Recovery Action Plan (RIPRAP), Revised April 1, 1999.
- FY 2000 Program Guidance.
- FY 99 and 2000 Recovery Program Work Plans

- Implementation and Management committee meeting summaries